

MIGRATION SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 26th - OCTOBER 2nd, 2008

Pelee Island Bird Observatory (PIBO)



Migration activity was fairly low-key at the Point during the final days of September and early October, yet cool weather and steady north winds made for a reasonably busy time and a nice variety of birds (82 species) were recorded during the official count period. Typical late-Fall migrants were counted in moderate numbers including both kinglet species, **Yellow-rumped Warbler**, and **White-throated Sparrow**, along with ones-and-twos of **Brown Creeper**, **Red-breasted Nuthatch** and **Winter Wren**.

Fourteen warbler species were noted during the week and thrushes continued to filter through the area, with **Hermit Thrushes** starting to outnumber the **Swainson's** and **Gray-cheeked**. The first significant wave of **Blue Jays** arrived on the 26th, with 418 birds tallied on the morning census.

Shorebird activity tapered off - four species were observed this week - and many early-Fall migrants such as orioles and most of the flycatchers and swallows were entirely absent. At the same time, a number of species made their first Fall appearance including **Hermit Thrush** (Sept. 26th), **Slate-colored Junco** (27th), **Scarlet Tanager** (29th) and **Dunlin** (30th).

PIBO's **Northern Saw-whet Owl** monitoring project got underway on the evening of October 2nd at a new survey site near the PIBO staff house. While no saw-whets were detected, we're confident the new location will prove to be a suitable (and practical) setting for future monitoring efforts.

A total of 82 species was recorded at the Point this week during the official count period compared to 81 last week and there were six Fall 'firsts', which brings the Fall species total to 143. In all, 143 birds were banded along with one recapture in 294 net-hours, for an average catch-rate of .49 birds/net-hour.

Scarlet Tanager photo - Kerry McGuire

PIBO's next summary will be posted on October 11th.

Birds documented at Fish Point by PIBO staff from September 26th - October 2nd, 2008

Date	Sep/Oct	26	27	28	29	30	1	2
Species								
Double-crested Cormorant		9K	700	6K	1.2K	300	4.5K	40
Green Heron			1					
Great Blue Heron					1			
Turkey Vulture		6				3		1
Canada Goose		29	42	30	29	46	32	
Wood Duck			2					
Mallard		3	9		4	8	2	3
Gadwall			1					
Northern Pintail			1					
Red-breasted Merganser						1		
Bald Eagle				1		1		
Northern Harrier							1	
Sharp-shinned Hawk		7	2	6	3		2	1
Red-tailed Hawk			1					
American Kestrel		1						
Merlin			1					
Peregrine Falcon							1	
Wild Turkey					10			
Killdeer					1			
Spotted Sandpiper		1						
Sanderling			8		1	18	9	
Dunlin						1		
Ring-billed Gull		90	30	13	30	13	620	9
Herring Gull		4	20	6	21	16	36	8
Great Black-backed Gull		15	4	12	14	21	40	2
Mourning Dove					2			1
Rock Dove				1			1	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo								
Great Horned Owl			1	1				
Eastern Screech-Owl			1					
Belted Kingfisher					2			
Red-bellied Woodpecker			1	1	1		1	1
Downy Woodpecker		1		1	4	2	1	1
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker					1			
Northern Flicker		6	2	5	7	2	4	2
Eastern Wood-Pewee		2		1				
Eastern Phoebe		1	1	1	1			1
Great Crested Flycatcher		1						
Red-eyed Vireo		2	1					
Blue-headed Vireo		1	1		1			
Blue Jay		418	99	90	80	6	18	15
American Crow		13		2	6			
Tree Swallow								11
Black-capped Chickadee		6	6	9	15	2	4	3

Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	2		4			
Brown Creeper			1		1		1
Carolina Wren	2	1	1	3	3	1	
House Wren	3	2	2		1		2
Winter Wren		7	1	4	3	2	5
Golden-crowned Kinglet	15	14	12	20	5	12	10
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	3	5	1	7	1	5	6
Wood Thrush					1		1
Swainson's Thrush	6	3	3	8	1	3	4
Gray-cheeked Thrush	4	3	1	1		3	2
Hermit Thrush	1		1				1
Gray Catbird	2	3	1		2		1
Brown Thrasher			1				
European Starling	1		4		9		3
Cedar Waxwing	9	14		1			
Tennessee Warbler				1			
Nashville Warbler	1			1		1	1
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1						
Magnolia Warbler	7	2	5	1		2	
Black-throated Blue Warbler	7	7	1	2		1	2
Yellow-rumped Warbler		1	4	3		2	3
Black-thr. Green Warbler		1	1	1			
Palm Warbler	1			1		1	
Pine Warbler				1			
Bay-breasted Warbler				1			
Blackpoll Warbler	6			7			1
American Redstart	3	1	1	1	1	3	2
Ovenbird	1	1	3	2		1	
Common Yellowthroat	1		1	4		1	
Scarlet Tanager				1			
Northern Cardinal	2	3	3	2	2	1	2
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1						
Indigo Bunting	1						
White-throated Sparrow	4	6	21	11	8	31	16
White-crowned Sparrow							1
Dark-eyed Junco		1	2	1			1
Red-winged Blackbird	20			11			
Common Grackle	4						
American Goldfinch	18	10	9	28	2	2	6

SPECIES

Day	48	43	40	49	29	33	36	
Fall 2008	137	141	141	142	143	143	143	
This period	83		Previous period					81
Sep/Oct	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	
Weather- 1 hr. after sunrise								
Wind direction/strength ¹	E5	NE4	NE3	N1	NW5	NW6	WNW7	
Visibility (km)	30	25	20	30	20	25	25	
Cloud cover (0-10)	8	9	5	10	10	9	3	

Temperature (o C)

16

19

15

16

16

14

11

Precipitation

RAIN

RAIN

¹ Beaufort scale